



City of Pittsburgh

510 City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Text File

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Committee: City Council

Status: Adopted

WHEREAS, Strong Women, Strong Girls (SWSG) originated on the Harvard campus in 2000 with six women mentoring 30 girls. It was incorporated as a nonprofit in Boston in 2004 and added a Pittsburgh expansion branch in 2006. Now, it has expanded to providing programming to over 1,400 girls in Pittsburgh and Boston and several pilot programs at over 100 schools and community center partner sites; and,

WHEREAS, SWSG served 623 girls from 19 Greater Pittsburgh neighborhoods throughout Allegheny County and matched them with 220 undergraduate mentors from the University of Pittsburgh, Duquesne University, Point Park University, Carnegie Mellon University and Carlow University. This year, SWSG will expand to serve girls in Beaver County by adding a new chapter at Robert Morris University; and,

WHEREAS, Every day, SWSG supports positive mentoring relationships between college women and pre-adolescent girls in underserved local communities. To gain momentum locally around that mission, they established the Strong Awards, designed to celebrate the leadership and unwavering contributions of women and girls in the greater Pittsburgh region; and,

WHEREAS, The Pittsburgh Strong Awards are designed to celebrate one outstanding woman and three phenomenal young women (college, high school, elementary/middle) whose work and leadership demonstrates a commitment to empowering women and girls throughout the greater Pittsburgh region. The 2015 Strong Girls Award winners are Lauren O'Brien, University of Pittsburgh, Emily Volk, Avonworth High School and Lorraine West, Barrett Elementary School. The 2015 Strong Woman award winner is Tamasia Johnson, founder and executive director of the Pearl Club; and,

WHEREAS, The winners will be honored at the 2015 Strong Awards Breakfast which serves as SWSG's annual fundraiser and award ceremony. The event will be held on Friday, August 21, 2015 at the Pittsburgh Doubletree Hotel; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby honor the awardees of the 2015 Pittsburgh Strong Awards for being a positive influence in the lives of our young girls and adolescents; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Friday, August 21, 2015, to be "Strong Women, Strong Girls Day" in the City of Pittsburgh.